

This may be Printed.

Nov. 17.  
1689.

*Rob. Midgley.*

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THE  
K GUARDIAN'S  
INSTRUCTION,  
OR,  $\frac{1030}{3}$  6.11

*The Gentleman's Romance :*

Written for  
The *Diversiſion* and Service of  
THE GENTRY.

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*—Delectando, paritérque Monendo.*

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L O N D O N,  
Printed for the Authour, and ſold by *Simon*  
*Miller*, at the *Star*, near the *West-end*  
of *St. Paul's*, 1688.

THE

GUARDIAN

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OF

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TO THE  
ENGLISH  
GENTRY.

**A**fter the very copious Treatise of Education, the Gentleman's Calling, and other Excellent Advices of Manners, Civil prudence and Institution, it looks somewhat Assuming to invade any the least part of that Subject.

But I am so far from pretending to Vye Art and Contrivance, that the main Design of that Part of this Tract which interferences is

## To the *English* Gentry.

to exemplifie and illustrate the Practicableness of those General Rules and Instructions which the forementioned Authours have deduced from Nature and Reason. And therefore sometimes a Coincidence of the same Thoughts upon the same Subject is unavoidable, as Mr. Osborn hath alledged to excuse himself on the like Occasion.

And truly to be just to them who have written before, the whole serviceableness of this small thing doth depend upon and absolutely require a previous frequent Resort to those Books, which ought never to be out of the Studies of any School-master, Parent or Tutour in the Kingdom.

And

## To the *English* Gentry.

And though the Management of my Project can hardly stand the Tryal, yet the Design of it will not be censured by any man who loves a Gentleman.

I have had Experience how far the Honour and Interest of Great Families is concerned in the Vertuous Accomplishment of the Eldest Sons and Heirs: And if the Observations which mine own Experience hath forced me to make are any thing worth, they are but a reasonable Acknowledgment of the Respects which I have received from the Gentry, both Fathers and Sons.

I foresee some Objections which I must account for.

A 2

Object. I.



## To the *English* Gentry.

Object. I. *Why is the Book so short, when the Pretensions seem so considerable?*

1. *Because I told you that other Persons had written before upon one Great Part of my Subject, to whom I refer you for a thousand wiser Instructions.*

2. *I sometimes onely give bare Hints of serious things, when they carry so much Evidence of Reason with them as will make the Active Soul of any Man who is Good, and desireth to be Wiser, consider and exercise his Thinking.*

3. *I have heard a Wise man say, that there may be as much Judgement required to make a short Book as a long one.*

4. *Sup-*



## To the *English* Gentry.

4. Suppose the Persons for whose use this is written, should be somewhat Impatient of Reading long things, then perhaps they may be the less displeased with an ordinary Subject, provided they can read it over at one sitting.

Object II. *The Romantick manner of Writing.*

Truly, when I was of the Age of those persons in kindness to whom I write, I then thought that *Fiction* and Intercourse was somewhat more diverting than uniform Narrations or dogmatical Propositions. And I was about to say, that they better understand Hobbs his Sense and Principles by Timothy and Phi-

## To the *English* Gentry.

lautus, than from the Grand Authour himself: For there they see Consequences displayed, and the Slye Connexion between Dangerous Conclusions and Plausible Premisses exposed, which was palliated before under Good Style and Language, and the Magisterial Authority of the Proponent.

Object. III. The Style sometimes will seem eager.

Verily this I my self am afraid of, for fear of Indecency, (no man being a competent Judge of his own Indecencies. )

But two things I have to offer for my self, if the good natur'd Reader will accept of them.

1. That I do assure him (who  
am

## To the *English* Gentry.

am best able) That no single Person alive is aimed at or intended to be described and pictured in the angry Characters of a Fond Father, a Womanish Mother, Debauched Son, Wanton Daughter, Ill Schoolmaster, Careless Tutor, &c. that would be Rude and Barbarous.

I set up one of Plato's Idea's, and sometimes shoot Bitter Words, but this hurts none; there is no Bloud drawn from Universals.

2. Whoever thinks the Language Angry; surely, if he would consider well, Sharpness of Style would not be looked upon as more unnecessary for Instruction, than pickled Sauces are for insipid Meat: 'Tis true, they grate the

## To the English Gentry.

*Palate, but they make the Meat go down, and help Digestion.*

Object. IV. *Expressions sometimes mean, and Similes too vulgar: This I confess my self ashamed of, and is one Reason why I do not put my Name: but really, I knew not how to avoid it; I knew not how to expose and lessen culpable things, but by culpable Language.*

Object. V. *---Wandering and hunting out to fetch in heterogeneous Matter.*

*You may Remember, that I told you before, how impatient Youth is wont to be, and how to chain it I know not, but by various and unexpected Subjects: and there is not any Digression, but some Person*

## To the English Gentry.

son or other will be concern'd to understand the Design. And who-soever shall be so kind as to apply the Instructive part to his own Use, He is the Man for whom I write, and He onely comprehends my Intention.

Object. VI. Why doth it come out at such a time as this?

And why not? No dangerous Design, that I know, is in it, but this, that Gentlemens Sons may hereafter be bred up better than some of their Fathers have been.

I have oftentimes griev'd, when I have considered the Gallant Youth of the English Gentry, who have as good Parts, and are as well natur'd as any men in Europe: and yet as to Learning  
and



## To the *English* Gentry.

*and Politicks*, I am sorry to see some of them turn to so little Account in the Service of King and Countrey.

This was the Occasion of these Papers; and when they were first written, a Reverend Divine of good Estimation hearing them read, was earnest for their Publication: But the frequent Readings over, and continual Reflexions on them glutted my Fancy, that then it became too familiar, fulsome, and of no Taste: And thence it lay buried in the Dust for several years.

A while since I fastened upon it with a Fresh Stomach, and though it did not taste very salt,



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salt, yet I thought it relished somewhat better than it did before. And having added some few things, I communicated it to a Friend or two on whom I much depend; they were so complemental as to warrant the good Effect for which it was very sincerely intended; Tutouring being now as necessary ( for ought I see ) as ever. And those young Gentlemen are able to read this, who want Age and Solidity to be affected with Learned Discourses of Controversies and Politicks.

One thing I heartily beg of the Reader, if any Hint in these Papers or any former Discourse of this kind suggest a Suspicion  
of

## To the *English* Gentry.

*of the Authour, in the Name of  
Friendship, do not discover him:  
For at this time, when Writing,  
both as to Substance of Matter  
and Ornament of Language, is  
at highest, it is not fit to be sub-  
scribed by a man who hath  
thought away some Years.*

Farwell and be Civil.

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THE

(1)

# THE GUARDIAN'S INSTRUCTION.

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*A Letter from a severe Enemy of the  
University to his Guardian, a per-  
son more moderate, and Member of  
the Parliament at Oxford.*

SIR,

**W**E have here the news of ano-  
ther Parliament very speedily  
at Oxon, and, which is more  
surprising, the Report of your Resolution  
never to serve as Member more: the No-  
bility and Gentry will expect some *Account*  
why a Person who hath served the Go-  
vernment and Religion with that faithful-  
ness and dexterity for above twenty years,  
should at last be wanting thereunto, when  
perhaps one *brisk attempt* more might be as  
much worth as Property and Religion.  
How you will escape the name of *Tory* I  
know not, and then it is an easie step to  
B *Papist.*

2      *The Guardian's Instruction.*

*Papist.* Pray, Sir, rectifie me if I am mistaken by thinking the King, necessitated to call a Parliament, by some unexpected emergency either Foreign or Domestick: for I do not think the Countrey prepar'd yet: But if it must be summon'd, why at Oxford again? that Idle, Ignorant, Ill-bred, Debauch'd, Popish University of Oxford? If you do not stand, I am desired to appear, and beg the favour of your Direction towards the management of the *Cause*, and if I am chosen, towards the management of my self in the *House*: I had waited upon you my self but that I am confin'd by a great uneasiness contracted by a Cold, and if you fanſie my style is grown somewhat more *cagey* thereby, do not look upon me as a man incapable of being better *advised*, but frankly use the Authority which a thousand Circumstances give you over,

*Honoured SIR,*

*Your most obedient*

*and Affectionate*

*The*

*The Answer.*

Dear SIR,

THE solitary Retirement which I have lately undertaken being Irksome at the first, you could not be more artificial in your Relief, than to engage me in the Answer of a Letter, the substance of which requires more than an ordinary Reflexion, and whereon the Discharge of my thoughts may be *Instructive* as well as *Diverting*: what *Censure* I shall undergo for Declining the Character I have hitherto born, doth not now so much trouble me as it might have done heretofore at your Age, when full of Youth and Heat, coming newly to an Estate and Business, I thought it the speediest Course to be *Considerable*, to appear Haughty and Designing. But now I am grown so much more old than I was forty years ago, that I perfectly condemn censure, which operates no farther than you make it, and which nothing but an unmasculine Timorousness or *slavish* Ambition of Popularity makes considerable. If you measure your self from *abroad*, you must be the cheapest thing alive: I will teach you the true way to *Popularity*;



4     *The Guardian's Instruction.*

Let a sincere Design of Honour and Justice be at the Bottom of all your Actions: let an exemplary Piety and Devotion make the World gaze upon you: let no base Words, Actions or Acquaintance lessen the mention of you whereever you come: then may you defie *Censure*: the Good will honour, and the Bad will fear you, you will be applauded by the Wise, and then Fools need not be courted. Whereas on the other side, if you shall forbear an Action fit and *reasonable* merely upon the account of the *Censure* you are likely to undergo (either from the vulgar or great Ones) you will often find it very hard to be *Honest* and *Just*.

There are many *Hindrances* of Justice and Honesty; *Prejudice*, *Pride*, *Malice*, *Selfishness*, *Interest*, and *Passions*, but none so great as *Cowardice* and *Fear*.

This Humour makes *Princes* flattered, and *Great Ones* never hear their faults: makes Actions of Truth and Justice so *lamely* performed: and is in earnest the very *bane* of all Worth, Honour, and Integrity.

But yet I must be so civil to your *Request* as to say, that I am so far from any Contempt of that Honourable way of serving my King and Countrey in Parliament,



ment, that I desire never to be valued more for any thing in my Life, than for having been in a good measure Instrumental towards the passing some special Bills since the King came in. But I ever thought it unhappy and dangerous for a man to Dye full of *noise* and *business*. And men of *Action* cannot so soon prepare for another Life as *sedentary* men of thought and study may. I have ever pitied those men whose necessitous Employment and Fortune hath put them under an Obligation of making *even* at one time the *Accounts* of this World and the next. I therefore now fully resolved to Narrow my thoughts, and take the advantage which old Age and Experience gives of thinking *strictly*, and reviewing my Life; and being free'd from fancy (which often cheats the *younger* Judgments) to consider how far the *Rules* I have gon by, how specious soever to others and pleasant to my self, may be consistent with a severe expectation of an *Account* above, where Pleasure, Interest, and Passion must disappear. I have procured me many Practical Books of Divinity to assist my untutoured Conceptions, Books of men of all Persuasions: but all do not please me alike: some of them speak *fine* things, but their Medi-

6      *The Guardian's Instruction.*

rions are Poetical, Verbose, and Fancifull: others are Grave indeed, but they are Learned and *Difficult* when they would instruct: A third sort are Sober, Pious, and Easie, but flat, void of all Metal and Spirit, all Cant and *Formality*: A fourth insinuates an *Opinion* he is of.

But another sort of Writers there are with which *this Age* abounds, and which I mainly dwell upon: wherein with simplicity of style and seriousness of thought, I find a *sincere* state of truth and *just* limits of duty, neither too loose and large, lest a man should grow *wanton*, nor too strict and scrupulous, lest he should *despair*. And all with a due *movement* of Passions: out of which I intend to shape a true *Measure* of my self; learn the *Contempt* of what hitherto I have admired; *humble* my Soul for my many failings, and *warm* my Devotions by the expectation of a wiser and better state.

And forasmuch as an universal *Charity* and compassionate *Beneficence* to all mankind is an indispensable Condition of Divine Clemency and the most agreeable Companion of Mortification: it were barbarous for me (who Bred you) to let so good a Disposition go *unguarded*, which by reason of Youth is as capable  
of

of Direction as it is of Temptation by Prosperity. Therefore take my Experience along with you in the practice of a few Rules, by which your great Condition in the World may become more

{ *Easie.*

{ *Usefull.*

I. More Easie, Quiet, and less Disturb'd.

1. Because true and real Happiness is within, endeavour for a *solid Persuasion* of God's Goodness and Willingness to pardon sin upon Faith and Repentance and the train of Duties they imply: for the frequent recurring of Guilt and unavoidable Infirmities will beget great solicitousness of thought and dejection of spirit, and if the Devil should suggest *hard* and false notions of God, it may not onely disturb your Happiness, but your Senses too: I would have it a *solid Persuasion*, not the fancifull *Presumption* of every hasty Believer; and upon Terms of the Gospel, to distinguish it from an holy Stupidity, which is as far from true Peace of Conscience as the Sleep procured by *Opiates* is from the *natural* Refreshment of a sound Constitution.

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2. Because Fear hath torment, and no torment greater than the Fear of Death: make the thoughts of mortality *familiar*, and habituate your self into a *Capacity* of Dying, this will prevent the great amazement a fit of Sicknes many times begets.

3. A Resolution sometimes upon occasion to *deny* your self some satisfactions which your Appetite pursues, though they seem very *reasonable*; then Disappointments and cross Accidents will be easie.

4. Not too much to value the *Censure* of others in the performance of what you apprehend to be your own Duty; neither let Ceremony or Civility at any time hinder *Business*.

5. Not to be discouraged in your Duty by the foresight or opinion of *Unsuccessfulness*.

6. If you are complying and of an easie Temper; not to be hasty and lavish of Promises, the Performance may be troublesome.

7. If of a gratefull Temper, not to accept of unnecessary Favours, the thoughts of Requital are afflicting.

8. If of a good natur'd pitying Disposition, not to be *unwarily free* to Strangers or Relations of *mean* fortune, lest they

*crave*

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crave too much, and think all you have their due.

9. If *melancholy*; to labour against it, as the Parent of { *Fears*  
                                  { *Scruples* } which are *vexations* and endless.

10. If *proud*; to consider, it will create Envy, Contempt and Design, and is really the greatest Folly, and yet we are all marvellously subject to it.

11. If *passionate*; to study the Prevention of the obvious *Occasions*, consider the *Indecency* and the many *Disturbances* of it, to be always on your *guard* for fear.

12. If *given to women*, consider the Shame and Scandal, and slavish fear of Discovery.

13. If *malitious*; to consider the Enmity and Danger it begets, and that you must forgive, if you hope to be forgiven.

14. If *disputations*; to consider how disobliging and uncivil it seems.

15. Not to be *inquisitive* into Secrets or meddling in other mens Affairs you are not concerned with. Not to be always asking *Questions* in Company, it is ill *Breeding*.

16. Not to contend with *Great* ones, but quickly yield; whatever be the Provocation: They will *worst* you at last.



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17. Not to name or reflect on Persons in *promiscuous* Company: You know not their *Relations*, or whom you disoblige.

18. Not to believe every man you converse with as *honest* as your self, upon a friendly and complaisant Address: The World is a great *Cheat*.

19. Not to be *ashamed* to ask pardon of whom you have injured, and make what *restitution* you are capable of.

20. Not to be too *open* and free of conversation (whatever be your Wit) and how pleasant soever you may seem to Company, they will condemn you, and may *mischief* you afterwards.

21. Not to be too  *wary* and cautious in your Opinion of small things, amongst wise men: this looks like suspicion and is ridiculous, to *whisper* Proclamations, and not tell a man what day of the month it is, without *considering*, this is formal and foppish.

22. Not *hastily* to think any man your Enemy, it may *make* one, a man may be *angry* with you, and not *hate* you.

23. Not to *trust* one whom you have disoblig'd, too soon.

24. To expect and resolve to *bear* with many Offences and Indignities, and consider that no condition of Life can be free from



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from all *disquiet*, for ought I know, it would be *dangerous*.

25. Not *easily* to believe Reports concerning your self or others.

26. Not quickly to espouse the *Quarrels* of your Relations or Friends.

27. Beware of being too much obliged by *Great men*, whom you are not very familiar with; they will be apt to impose Hardships upon you, it may prove a *slavery* to you, if they are *proud*.

28. Beware of setting up that *sturdy Resolution* which some make, never to give off what they have once begun, but at all adventures to go on; this may run you into vast inconveniencies.

29. Be cautious of undertaking greater Designs than what are just and sutable to your *Condition*; then if you miscarry, you will not be *condemned*.

30. Be careful to treasure up the *Remembrance* of all God's mercies to you and yours: For Gratitude is a good *Guard* against sin, *Gen. 39. 9.*

31. In time of great Crosses and Affliction, be sure *first* to pray for *Pardon* of sin, and then you may with Earnestness and hopes beg *Pray*, *Matt. 9. 2, 5, 6. H. 59. 1, 2.*

32. When you pray for Pardon of sins, because we all *forget* many sins we would repent

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repent of, if we thought on them, be carefull to mention *secret* and *forgotten* sins.

33. You must resolve to *marry*; for to leave the management of your great Family to *Servants* onely, is neither for Credit or Profit, and to undertake all the little things of House-keeping your self, will be Gossiping: Beside the dull converse of *Servants* onely, will either give Scandal, or tempt you to *ramble*, and make you be thought looser than really you are.

34. If circumstances will permit, put your self into the state of Life, which most agrees with your *Temper*.

35. Do not accustome your self (be your *riches* what they will) to be too *nice*, curious and fantastical in *Diet*, *Habit*, *Attendance*, that will prove very troublesome.

36. Be not extravagantly high in expression of your *Commendations* of men you like.

37. Study and pray for a perfect *Resignation* of your will to God's will, and with all imaginable *Application* of mind say, Not my will, but thy Will be done; and then go, be as happy as you please.

II. Your

II. Your Life is also to be *Usefull* to others as well as *Easie* to your self.

1. By the good *Example* of a vertuous and holy Life; Incredible is the Influence of a *great Man* on a Family, Parish, and Neighbourhood: for the Vulgar have quite lost their *Hearing*; Preaching is but an honester sort of *Diversion*: they learn all by gaping and staring on a man in fine Clothes. And therefore since you can so *easily* doe God and Man so great service, pray look on your self *obliged*. Do not put God off with a little *fashionable* Civility to the national Religion. I am afraid the serious *Reflecting* and *Meditating* part is not frequent enough among the Gentry. Let not Pastime, Business or Company *waste* all the day: Retire a little and *Enjoy* your own Soul. This will not lessen the Pleasures of Life, but sweeten and make them *solid*; and make them differ from the crackling of *Thorns* and the flame of *Straw*. I mean the thin, short-liv'd Delights of the *boysterous* part of the world.

2. *Knowledge*. Great are the Advantages which the Wealth of the Gentry affords them for Knowledge: they are capable thereby of the choicest *Education*,  
greatest

greatest variety of usefull *Books*, and learned'st *Companions* in study. But one sort of knowledge above all the rest will render them exceeding serviceable in the places where they live, (a considerable knowledge in the *Law*) beside the pleasure That study would afford, as copying out the *Reason* and *Wisdom* of the Nation. This will make them more securely possess and prudentially manage their Estates for their Posterity. And what service may they doe others by untying knots and composing differences? By hindring men from suffering Oppression by *Ignorance*; by directing the management of Parochial and Countrey *Business*; which the general road men go in doth not safely shew.

3. *Power*. What should hinder the Master of a Family from keeping his Servants duly to Prayers at Home; and in their turns to Sermons and Sacraments at Church? What an *Empire* hath a Justice of Peace in the Countrey! and how gallantly is that Power bestowed when an extravagant Ale-house is *unlicensed*, a common Swearer *fined*, an useless Vagabond forced to work, a quarrelsome Neighbour reduced to *manners*, and a poor abused Minister is *assisted*? At what a mighty rate doth the

the Judge sell every minute wherein *righteous* Judgment is given; the Cause of the *Widow* patiently heard, and the fraud and wit of the *Oppressor* over-ruled? When the Bribery, Perjury and Malice of a *Witness* is condemn'd, and the *greatest* Man that offends afraid to come before him.

4. By *Wealth*. It is an ill-natur'd sort of Doctrine to preach, and will not hold at *Westminster*, that the *Poor* have a good Title to some of the rich man's Money: But it would be an unlucky *Disappointment* hereafter, if in stead of asking how many Lordships you left your Heir, How many Daughters you married to great Fortunes, How many Livery-men you kept, &c. God should demand, How many poor Widows have you sav'd from *starving*? How many Labourers you have set to work and paid *honestly*: how many *decay'd* Families you have reliev'd, what you did give to a *Brief* for a Fire, Church, or Hospital, &c. Reade *Barrow* of Charity. The practice of these Rules will help qualifie a Life of Action such as yours must be, and mine hath been.

But now I bid adieu to all *publick* *affairs*: this Nation will never want a breed of men to manage its *Concerns*.



As for the next thing, *The King's being under the necessity of a Parliament.*

I know no necessity can be upon the King to call a Parliament but a Foreign War and want of Money: As for a War, 'tis not likely (unless by the *Moors* upon *Tangier*) we have attempted to play the King at *France*, but they two will hardly meddle with one another; we have endeavoured to make *Spain* break with us, but they are poor, the *Dutch* are cunning, so that his Majesty is secure in that point. As for want of Money, it is said and believed that the King is now made a good Husband, and hath money in the Chequer: if so, it will bring down the price of Membership: We had been better to have given him a million of money than to have suffered him ever to come to *Think* and grow cunning; for, if I ken him aright, he hath Parts enough to govern a bigger Nation than this, if he can once endure the penance of *Business* and leave off to be afraid of meeting us at *Westminster*. And it is probable he never will be so again, since the Success of that Venture of Contempt upon us, in the amazing precipitated dissolution at *Oxford*; from which  
time.

time I will be bold to date the sinking of *Parliamentary Grandieur*.

I guess who it was within one man or two who for interest and security thought it necessary that things should be put to some *issue* at *Oxford*, the City being embittered by the removal of us, and things carried so high as to force the King either to shew Fear and yield to *terms*; or Fury, and so act a severe part upon some Members, and by that give occasion to a Tumult in the City, which then certainly was design'd.

Whereas you question the King's *Interest in the Countrey*, let me tell you, I perceive the Countrey cools apace, and he who deals with the Vulgar must doe his business quickly, for seven hours sleep will make a Clown forget his design. It hath been no small advantage to the King that his Adversaries still act with more *noise* and *tumult* than he: and though noise and tumult does wonders while it continues, yet when it once sinks and grows calm, it is far more difficult to be usefull again. I take the Vulgar to be like a *Race-horse*, when he is upon speed it is a mighty pace, but if in the course he be checked and comes to *trot* it is very hard to make him gallop again. If

If a Parliament must be summon'd,  
yet why at *Oxford*?! Idle, Ill-bred,  
Ignorant, Debauch'd, Popish *Oxford*?

You will wonder how I should come to be an Advocate for *Oxford*, who have railed at it for above forty years together, and perhaps upon better grounds than most men do.

I was entred there when the first great difficulties arose betwixt the old King and Parliament, and as much care was taken as was usual in the choice of a Tutor: But as I came to understand there was a certain Master of Arts who was to be the next Tutor of course, and so the next Gentleman who entred was to be recommended to him in his turn, it happened I was the man, who came with tolerable Parts and Learning; I had a great reverence for the Person who was to be my Guide, and a strong opinion to be made very wise.

It happened that my Tutor was a great Philosopher, which made me proud to hear of, expecting in some short time to be so too: He began at first gloriously with me, to magnifie the advantages of a good Education: How the greatest Conditions

ditions of *Honour* and *Trust* were supplied from the University: What a disgrace it was to the Nation, and what an injury to Government of Church and State, that when other Countries, *France, Poland, Scotland, &c.* are studious to discipline their Nobility and Gentry into good *Manners, Politicks* and *Religion*; Here, eldest Sons are generally condemned to Hawks and Hounds, and Wisdom left the Patrimony of younger Brothers onely, and Poor mens Sons: That the mutual lustre of a Diamond beset with Gold was a mean *Comparison* to Wisdom in the breast of such a man as I. This ravished my rustick modesty, and made me proud with the thoughts of what I should hereafter be. I out-waked the Bell, and scorned to be called to my Duty. I attended every motion of his Eye for a summons to Philosophy, and thought every minute an hour till I was entred into that course of study, which was to make me and all my Relations happy. But alas! the fame of his Parts and Learning had gained him Acquaintance whose company was dearer than mine; so that a Lecture now and then was a great *Condescension*, and I most days in the week, when others were carefully looked after, left naked to infinite tempra-

temptations of doing nothing, or worse; but God's *Grace*, the good *Example* of my Parents, and a *natural* Love of Vertue, secured me so far as to leave *Oxford* ( the troubles coming on ) though not much more learned, yet not much worse than I came thither: I must in justice say in favour of the University in general, that the growing *disturbances* in Church and State, and some Disputes in the University, may well be supposed an unhappy occasion of slackening the *Discipline* there at that time.

But this infinite *Disappointment* did so afflict me, that when I came to have Children, I did almost *swear* them in their Childhood never to be friends with *Oxford*. This peevishness of mine was much increased by a Chaplain of my Sister's, who was made a Fellow of a College in the late times, and turned out upon the Restoration of the King. He sought occasions continually to rail at the University for Ignorance, Debauchery and Irreligion, insomuch that I sent my eldest Son abroad, to try what improvement might be gained by travelling; at least to divert. I would willingly have sent him to the *Inns of Court* but that I had observed for these last twenty years how the  
Gaiety



Gaiety and Frolick of the Court, and the great admiration of Wit, had softned the Souls of many excellent Persons of mine Acquaintance into an aversion from Industry; who made themselves no otherwise considerable than for assisting at a Ball, and instead of adding Wealth and Honour to a Family by advancement through the Law, impaired both; and, which is most deplorable of all, at length came off poisoned with such a licentiousness of Manners, shameless Atheism, and heathenish promiscuous use of Women, that either Gentlemen could not persuade their eldest Sons to (the *Confinement* of) Marriage, or scarce find Ladies of Fortune and Quality which dared to venture to have them for *Husbands*.

Nothing but such Reasons as these can justify my venturing my eldest Son so early into the wide world: And I must confess, that when he returned from beyond Sea, I was pleased to see the ruff boyish humour *filed* a little, and shaped into much of a Man. I was infinitely delighted with the prospect of the Happiness I promised my self in the Conversation of an Heir who brought home the same *Innocence* of Inclinations he carried, and by *staring* about *France* and *Italy*, had furni-

furnished himself with a *Complaisance* very acceptable wherever he came.

But you must pardon two qualities he had contracted. 1. An humour of magnifying things abroad in comparison with his own Countrey. 2. A *stateliness* of behaviour, and contempt of mean Acquaintance. The last of these I did not much discourage, finding him Just and Charitable. For I have often seen young Gentlemen guarded from low and base Actions and Company by *generosity* of Spirit. And how many men do you and I know, loose enough (God help them) from the *Bigotry* of Conscience, and yet upon the bare *Religion* of Honour rather than disgrace a worthy *Family*, misbecome a *Character*, or fail the *opinion* of the World, do as much scorn a base Action, will be as true to their Word, when they might gain by Lying; as far from cheating a Widow, Minister or Orphan, who cannot contend, or doe any ungenteele thing, as that man who thinks the World to come worth *twenty* of these.

But (Nephew) you are *Rich* and *Great*, and therefore I must have a care you do not mistake me, when I say I would have my eldest Son a little *stately*: I do not mean any degree of that *gross* imperious  
Pride

Pride which God and Man hates : That first-born Monster of *Selfishness*, and ill-natur'd Complexion of the *Devil* : Poison'd and puff'd up with *Envy* of what Equals and Better enjoy ; which makes a man think all the World made for his single Lust and Pleasure : Overlook Mankind, *Rebell* against Superiours, *Malicious* to Equals, *Tyrant* to Inferiours, *Merciless* to the Offendour, *Cruel* to the Needy, and *False* to the Hireling : Kind onely to *Sycophants*, and Friend to *None* : Walk, Spread, and Swell, like the mighty Builder of *Babylon* when he was turning *Brute*.

And not onely the *Vileness* of the Sin makes the Proud Man as sure to be Hated in this World as he is to be Damn'd in the next ; but the Proud Man is a greater *Fool* than I believe he thinks *himself* : For he loseth what he mainly aims at, instead of being Honour'd and Esteem'd, he makes himself the most *Contemprible* thing alive. For he is discovered by all his Words, Actions, and Designs, even when he *counterfeits* Humility and Obligingness ; oh how 'tis *overdone*, strain'd, and formal. It was always thought a great measure of Folly to be able to be Flattered : and of all men living if you meet with a Proud Man, you have him at your *mercy* : It is but

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but to magnifie his *Ancient* Family, though perhaps his Great Grandfather could not Write and Reade; The Splendour of his *Living*; when perhaps the hired Livery-men dare not drink once in a month in his House: His *Wit*, when perhaps it is most shewn by holding his tongue, &c. doe but all this and keep your *Countenance*, ask what you will he never denies the man who understands Worth. And you must be sure also to tune your *cringing* Muscles by a *French* Fiddle, *Shrugg*, and make your honour punctually, you may lead the great Thing to and fro as if he had a *Ring* in his Nose.

But to come to my *Son* again. It quickly appear'd how *sad* is the condition of a Gentleman without *Learning*. For wanting some ingenuous Diversion to fill the *deal* of void time young Gentlemen have in the Countrey, and being ashamed to be still obliged to *Silence* in all discourses of Learning and State, for want of more Knowledge; he fell into such an *immoderate* love of Sports that he was never well but when he was managing or talking of his Dogs; and in a little time became fit company for *nothing* else: Debauched, and wholly *useless* to King, Countrey, and his Family, and if I had not been alive

to secure the Estate, he prov'd as likely to have made a Gentleman of his Steward as any Man in *England*.

I know I am blam'd ( but my Wife must bear her share ) for breeding him up at a *mean School* : For she pretending the danger in *great Schools* of growing a man too soon, and learning ill Tricks (but in *Truth* because this place was *near*, and she could see him and hear from him often ) would hear of no other Master.

And really the Countrey Gentlemen are somewhat hardly dealt withall in *this point* : For sometimes very mean Persons are licensed to ruine our Children, to the great Prejudice of Church and State, a Schoolmaster being the best or worst Subject in the Nation : not but that we have now as many worthy Schoolmasters as ever, but one ignorant one doth mischief enough.

The Parliament hath used all the prudent Caution imaginable, by referring that Affair to the Inspection of the *Ordinary* : It cannot be objected that we do not give *encouragement* enough to maintain fit persons; for I am bold to say, no Gentleman is so *weak* as not *Plentifully* to gratifie that Person, who is to contribute to the Prosperity of a whole *Family*, by spending

C



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ding all his Thoughts, Pains, and Time in studying the *various* Tempers and Inclinations of Youth as he must doe, if he will be *just* to our Expectations.

But very mean was that Person to whom I sent my Son upon my Wife's *importunity*.

And perhaps hereafter you may find it a very hard matter, not to be guided by a *Wife* in the *breeding* your Children. For that Fondness which is a *just debt* from all to a Wife, and is in some by Nature excessive, if she be cunning enough to humour it well with a few Tears or a pretended Fit, will melt your sweet Disposition. Mistake me not, I speak this only by way of *Caution*, that when you marry and grow fond, you may manage your *uxorionfness* more warily than I have done, for your own Credit and the good of your Children.

I do not speak this to *discourage Marriage*. For I will sincerely aver, that where the choice of *Quality, Temper, and Fortune* is tolerably prudent, there is a great deal more Happiness than in a discontented, loose, unsatisfied *single Life*, unless to those Persons whose Callings oblige them to a continual *Thoughtfulness*, and moderation of *Diet*.

I can-

I cannot but speak upon this Subject with a great *Concern*. For, I believe, if I had married my Son immediately after his return from *Travel*, while he was a *stranger* to bad Company and the Vices in *fashion*, I might have prevented his Extravagances, and fixed the *Mercury*. But afterwards, too late, when I had provided an agreeable Match, his Comrades had instilled into him such an *aversion*, and taught him to rail at Matrimony in the Language of the *Stews*, that the *design* of Happiness to my Family was utterly defeated: And once, I remember, full of Grief upon that Account, I was visited by a Friend who condoled the mischief of such *evil Principles*, and the sinfull Consequences of them. And, the better to relieve the burden I was oppressed with, and prate some of my *Thoughtfulness* away; I ask'd him, what he conceived were the Occasions of the present great *Contempt* of *Matrimony*. He smiled, and told me, that he had no great skill in the Business of Matrimony, but the *Contempt* of it, he thought, arose,

1. From the Influence the Devil hath upon the wild Libertinism of Nature, for want of the Fear of God, *Gen. 20. 11.* and our cross-grain'd Appetite still to the *Forbidden-fruit*.

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2. The frequency of leud Examples, which have baffled the Courage of Ecclesiastical Censure.

3. The popular notion of Matrimony being a slavish *confinement*: It is voluntary and therefore the less to be complain'd of, and sometimes it proves better to have business to do than to be *idle*; An Huntsman, no doubt, if he should see a Shop-keeper walking all the day long in a little Room, would think it a *damnable confinement*, and the other man makes it his *happiness*.

4. The Women govern: The wiser they: But I fancy that the Women never govern where the Man hath *Wit* enough to do it himself; and I hope you would not have Government *dye*?

5. False notions of the Instances and *Allowances* in the Old Testament.

6. Some peevish Expressions against Marriage in the good old primitive *Fathers*, not to say any thing of *modern Writers*.

7. The barbarous *forcing Matches* upon Children without their own Consent, and sad Consequences of that.

8. The everlasting Din of *Mothers-in-law*.

9. The hard-usage of the first brood, if they marry again.

10. The

10. The Rallery of such who either voluntarily *undertake* Coelibacy, or whose *Condition* of Life obligeth them to it.

11. The easie Cure of the French Complement, otherwise the sense of Honour and care of Health would make many a Gentleman like his *Own* Lodging.

There are many other Reasons of the Contempt of Matrimony which you may find in the *Lady's Calling*, and in another (waggish) book which I dare not name for fear of displeasing an excellent Mistress I have in the World, and because, I hope, he wrongs *new married* Ladies. These (Nephew) we both agreed, were the common Occasions of that Contempt under which Matrimony now labours, to the great Inconvenience of the Nation by *Immorality*, to Families for want of *Heirs*, and good young Ladies for want of *Husbands*.

This I thought fit to write to you; for whom we have provided an admirable Match, a Lady of all the good Qualities I would desire if I were of your Age. She is very Beautifull, and not *Proud*; She is Well-shap'd, and not *Stiff*; She is Witty, and not *Impertinent*; She is Familiar, but not *Fond*; Good-natur'd, but not *Easie*; Rich, but not *Imperious*; Young, but

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but not *Foolish*; Religious, but not *Fantastical*: She wants but one good Character more, that is, being *Your Wife*. And, I hope, we shall not find you so difficult to the wishes of your best Friends as my ungovernable Son, my incurable Son hath prov'd, utterly undone for want of *Education*.

But ( God be thanked ) a better Instruction fell to your Share: And, though I was against your going to *Oxford*, yet the little time you spent there was to so good purpose, that I am sorry for the Occasion of your not continuing longer, ( which I perceive you will never forgive the University. ) But now it may be hoped that you are of Age to consider, that *Conscience* and *Care* could not but oblige the Head of your House and Tutor to send home the first Alarm of Danger, when a Person of so great Hopes and Fortune, out of Youth and Goodness of Disposition, was like to become a Prey: Sure I am, the sense of Vertue and Religion and industrious Inclinations you brought thence deserved thanks, which my Son wanted, thanks to a foolish Father and Mother.

Well, whether I or my Wife were most guilty, it is now onely matter of *Repentance*;



ance; But our School-master(as appeared) by reason of Ignorance was never able to proceed to a *Degree* in the University, and set up his Staff for a Livelihood which fell toward a Countrey School. He riggs himself out with a new Suit, broad Hat, and Silver headed Staff, and being Secure from all Censure in point of Learning, his business with us was onely to counterfeit a *wise* and a *good man*, the first he gained the esteem of by an affected Gravity and a wary Silence in Company; the second he was secure of in our Countrey, by acting an extraordinary *Preciseness* and disgusting the imposed use of Ceremonies, confounding the Order of Bishop and Presbyter, magnifying the Advantages of a Commonwealth, railing at the Bishops Courts, and pitying the Hardships of taking Oaths, and being forced to Church. And having Wit enough to *cringe* to every Person, and comply with his Betters in all Discourse without the least *Contradiction*, he gain'd the Character of an *humble* and meek man. So that now Emploiment quickly came on, and happy was the Gentleman who could welcome this great *Gamaliel* with the first tender of his Respect, that is, the Sacrifice of an *eldest Son*.

Being settled in his Dominion, lest the forementioned humility and want of Learning (which Children are apt to smell out) should end in Contempt. He puts on a great self-conceit, ruffles amongst the trembling Boys with a *Fantastical Imperiousness*, and procures the name of a strict and carefull man by a partial Cruelty to poor mens children, for he knew Rich Mothers had somewhat as sovereign as Crabbs-eyes to sweeten the Choler, lest the dearly beloved eldest Son should come to a mischance.

For a long time I stood by and look'd on, but my Wife did so *hale* and *pull* me to send my Child to so *near* a School, that I saw no hopes of Peace, till I complied; I had the Flattery of several years of the Dutifulness and Proficiency of my Son, which my Wife never doubted of, seeing her Son kept sweet, neat in Cloaths, and *sheepish*, (which she called good-manners.) This Sheepishness, or over Bashfulness of his, I was troubled at, and endeavoured to mend, because of an Accident which I knew had befallen a young Gentleman my Neighbour: He was a genteel Youth, very fine in Parts and Disposition; his *Mother* was sensible of this, and fond enough; and so jealous of every  
Action,

Action, imperious and rigid to an hair's breadth of Duty, loud and noisy at every small miscarriage, (and sometimes at none.) This made the neat Youth dread the place whereever his Mother was: *timorously* perform every Duty for fear of being chidden, and at last so far dispirited, that when he grew up, and for Age and Knowledge was thought fit to be courted by the best sort of Acquaintance, he was quite overgrown with that *Curb* of *just* and *publick* Actions call'd *Infirmittas frontis*; he would behave himself so diffidently, that sense and words would fail him; and if his Mother came into the Room he was presently struck dumb.

Another Youth (exactly such) I knew whose Schoolmaster was rough and hasty, so that whenever he came into the School the gentle Boy trembled, his heart constantly aaked for fear, and at last contracted such an incurable Hectick as destroyed him.

These two Instances give me an unavoidable occasion of recommending the Practice of the Schoolmaster I was bred up under: He was a plain man, skill'd in his Profession, industrious and undersigning. His way was this; First to sift the Temper of every Youth; If he

found a Boy *ruggish and untractable*, quickly to ease himself of the uncomfortable duty of Severity : But if they were tractable and easie, whatever were their Parts or Learning, to make the best of both, encourage the Children with *Civility and Kindness* : He knew there was a *Generosity* in Gentlemen, and that what Imperiousness could not doe, Courtesie might, and out of *Gratitude* and a sense of Love and Care, he found better success than if he had affrighted them into Duty.

Well, when my Boy grew toward a Man, I took him away, and upon Examination I found that he had sent me home nothing but the very shell of a Gentleman, spruce indeed in habit, handsome, and well-natur'd, but infinitely void of all Knowledge either of words or things. It is true, I got him turn'd out, but in the mean time, my hopes were lost, so that it became no small Concern of mine to take better Care for the *second Son*, who had smarted for a better share of Learning somewhat than his Brother, at a *greater School*. Him therefore I was resolved not to *condemn* (as Gentlemen phrase it) but to prefer to a *Profession*. But what Course to take I was at a loss. *Cambridge* was so far off, I could not have

have any Eye upon him, *Oxford* I was angry with.

There was in the Neighbourhood an old grave Learned Divine (a rigid Churchman) and therefore thought me not zealous enough: but yet the great Integrity and Simplicity of his Life, and the Inoffensiveness of a free converse in matters of Indifferency, was Reason enough to me of standing by his *Judgment* in this great *Confusion* of mine own thoughts.

I desired his advice in the choice of a Profession, for I thought the Gentry and Nobility of this Nation the most *mistaken* men alive.

First, for breeding the elder and younger Sons at one *common* idle rate, as if both were to inherit equally, so that afterwards when they grow Men, and a Distinction must of necessity be made, it always breeds ill Bloud, and sometimes proves dangerous.

Secondly, for thinking it somewhat *beneath* Persons of Quality to gain a Livelihood by the industry of a Profession, such as a Child's inclination points to.

*Physick* we both did own to be in the speculation very *pleasant*, and in the Practice *gainfull*, but forasmuch as Eminency in that Study requires a more than ordinary



nary Knowledge in many sorts of Learning, and is so full of Care and Hardship, we left that to such who were furnished with more Learning, and invited by a strong natural Propensity thereunto.

*Civil Law* was then proposed as a genteel sort of Study, but when I considered into how few hands the Gains of that Profession falls, and how few Offices of Preferment there are, I laid aside all thoughts of that Learning, though most *honourable* of any next to Divinity.

My Neighbour spake well and largely of Divinity; and such was the *honesty* and clearness of his humour, that he frankly told me, that I, not favouring Episcopacy much, would hardly encourage a Son to be a Divine: I was not angry with his *undesigned* plainness, but grievously afflicted not to be more truly known to him; and with some kind of trouble in spirit I made him my Confessour. I told him,

That it did please God out of a sense of humane infirmity, I was naturally of a disposition prone to great *Pity* and *Compassion* to such as were poor, most of all to such as I saw honest in their morals, and, as I thought, sincere in Religion. And that once (out of *Curiosity*) I went to a notorious Meeting, upon the fame of an  
extra-

extraordinary gifted Preacher. I would, I confess, willingly, being a Member of that Parliament (which made the Act of Uniformity) have *contracted* my self, and not have been known to appear so much in opposition to it, but that could not be; and yet I was resolved to see what matter of *moment* there was to encourage my favouring of Dissenters, being born of Parents who paid dear for their Loyalty in the late times.

When the Meeters had given me the *invidious* unacceptable Deference of place, up springs a man with a briskness of look, fit to have domineer'd in the best Auditory in *England*. He throws his gaping Eyes about upon the numerous throng. He had no sooner named his Text, but about the Leaves and the Blew Strings of the *Dutch Bibles* flew, happy was the man who spit upon his Thumb, and first found the Chapter.

He began (I suppose upon a *mistake* of his Auditory) with Address, Language, Rhetorick, and Thought, as if he had been an Angel; and I never in all my life time prepared my self so much for attention; no not in the House of Commons: But he, *correcting* himself, descended to such a lamentable meanness of Looks, Words, and Thoughts, a plainly affected Wink, Shrugg,

Shrugg, and Whine, that I was altogether as much ashamed to be a Witness of what the Women sigh'd at and admir'd : and coming home to my Lodging, sent to speak one word with the Preacher, who enquiring what I was ; and understanding me a *member* of Parliament, shifted his Lodgings.

This afterwards I complained of in the House of Commons, freely confessing my Curiosity, and excusing the same by the Design I had in it. But I perceived that some of the most clamorous Members against Conventicles laughed at the Story, and found out business of another kind to stop any reflexion upon the Circumstances I related, from which time I began to be *jealous* of Conventicles, which before I *pitied*.

I went on, and told him farther, that, I thought, if at the *Restoration* some things had been left out of the Liturgy and others added, it might perhaps have bated many *exceptions* which are now made, but never in my Life thought an Alteration of it *afterwards* safe for the Kingdom.

That I go to Church with as much *Affection* as any man breathing, admire the *simple, full, and significant* style of the Liturgy, and the distinction of short Collects

lects as an ease to *tyred* Devotion; Pictures in Churches and frequent bowings I never was fond of, but as a Gentleman of breeding where-ever I saw others bow I did so too, thinking singularity *stiff* and *ungenteel*.

And, as for change of the *Monarchy* into a Common-wealth, I scarce ever heard, I am sure never endured, any Discourse tending that way. Alas! I remember the Protectorship of a fortunate *Officer*, and the Tyranny of *Major-Generals*: and were not I fit to be begged for a Madman or a Fool, if I should encourage a Tumult wherein 'tis Cross and Pile but some Varlet or other whom I have laid by the *Heels* for tearing Hedges, shall swagger at the head of twenty men worse than he, rob my Study, fire my House, ravish my Children, and cut my Throat?

Let the faults of Governours (said I) and Government be what they will, it is much safer to bear these faults than to venture a *Change*: which I confess many an innocent undesigning man may contribute to *accidentally*, but on purpose and studiously, none but such as either disgorged King and Church Lands at the Restoration, or such as fail'd in expectation of great Places, or were dispossessed from

from them, or such whose Vices have consumed a large Patrimony, and disgraced an ancient Family, shall attempt a *Reparation* from King or Church: all which I and my Ancestours have ever abhorred; and now, said I, Sir, with the great freedom you began, pray tell me what I am sick of, that the best Churchmen should bid such a man as I stand off, and cry *unclean, unclean*.

Upon this the honest man replied, that I was a better Church of *England* man than himself: And yet notwithstanding all this, I was resolved against making my Son a *Divine*, though for reasons not to the discredit, but to the *honour* of the Church.

I look on it (said I) as an incomparable advantage of that Profession to have for its single especial *Calling* what is the concern of all mankind, namely, the study of the knowledge of our duty toward God and Man: from which all other *Professions*, some more, some less, afford great Avocations and incredible *Hindrances*. Nay, if *temporal* advantages were a man's design, a Child could not be placed in more probable circumstances (having Friends to lend a helping hand) of an early plentiful fortune.



tune than holy Orders. And having mentioned the Temporal Advantages of the Clergy, I cannot forbear on this occasion giving you, Nephew, my advice concerning the disposal of your great Living of C. which I am told is likely to be void by the death of the Doctour who is now past all hopes of Recovery. You must expect infinite *solicitations* when so great a preferment falls; and if you have any value for one who resolves to spend all his wisdom upon you, let me beg you to act like an English Gentleman: it is reported that Master H. your Bailiff hath a Kinsman very fit to be recommended: Others say, that your Nurse's Daughter knows a man very deserving; and some report, that his Grace the D. of ——— intends to oblige you by giving you this fair occasion of owning the favour of his Grace, by making his Friend Rectour of 500 *li.* a year. Come, come, act like a man who understands and deserves the true name of *Patron*, that is, wisely dispose the Living, and then *protect* the Minister in his Rights and Privileges, neither *wrong* him your self, nor suffer others to doe it: Do not hamper him, or call him ungratefull fellow if he refuse to compound  
for

for *twenty per Cent.* Perhaps while you are warm with Pride and Prosperity, Repentance may look cowardly and Restitution ungenteel. Acts of Injustice may *go down easily*, but they will *rattle* in your throat when you come to die. You are secure from my begging, for my Son shall not be a Divine; for in truth the *Knowledge* real or pretended of Scripture and Divinity which the wise sort of all Professions now *pretend* to, and the great *Controversies* and variety of opinions which of late have been set on foot, make it absolutely necessary for a Divine to be furnished with deeper Learning than ordinary, and the want of *strictness* in the Education of a Son of a great Family, will render the *confinement* in that severe Profession irksome to such a Youth as mine, and without which he can never *adorn* his Function.

At last I *plainly* owned that the Common Law was my design, having observed that critical Learning was not required, and I desired my Neighbour's opinion and direction hereunto. He did confess,

That he thought it a study so *laudable* that he would willingly have spent some time in it himself, but that the loss of so much

much time must needs have intrench'd upon his proper *Calling*.

He look'd upon each great Lawyer capable of signal service to the *State* and infinite Acts of *Charity* to private Persons; and that it must be impossible twenty years hence for a good Lawyer to want *Preferment*. But he offered *many things* to be considered before the Law was to be attempted.

1. Whether my Son had *strength* of Constitution to undergo the drudgery of six or seven years close study?

2. Whether living in an *University* as a *Gentleman* at large without close confinement would not habituate him to *Laziness* greater than that study is consistent with.

3. Great care must be taken to give him sound Notions of Justice and Charity. Because, though neither the Law nor any other Profession brings any necessity on a man or irresistible temptations to be injurious, yet in all Professions there are some, and in the Law, from the shew of Parts being able to carry a doubtfull Cause: And I verily believe (said he) that many a good man at the hour of death doth repent of having served the interest of an ill Suit, notwithstanding the  
the

the excuse of being obliged by the *Calling* to speak, having received his Fee. After all this, if I did stand it out in favour of the Law, then Logick, for a year or two in some University would be usefull, because frequent formal disputation makes a Youth more *attentive* to a Discourse and more quickly apprehensive of a false or weak Reasoning.

And when I objected my Prejudice against *Oxford*, from my own experience formerly, and from the suggestions of my Sister's Chaplain just before and after the King came in: the first he could not answer for, the latter he confessed in part was true at the time it points out.

For of all places the University being *fast* to the Monarchy, suffering most, and being most weary of the Usurpation, when *Oliver* was dead, and *Richard* dismounted, they saw through a maze of Changes, that in little time the Nation would be fond of that Government which twenty years before they hated. The hopes of this made the Scholars talk aloud, drink healths, and curse *Murder* in the very Streets: Insomuch that when the King came in, nay, when the King was but *voted* in, they were not onely like them that dream, but like them who  
are

are out of their wits, mad, stark staring mad; to study was *Fanaticism*, to be moderate was down-right *Rebellion*, and thus it continued for a twelve-month, and thus it would have continued till this time, if it had not pleased God to raise up some Vice-Chancellours who stemmed the torrent which carried so much filth with it, and in defiance of the loyal zeal of the *Learned*, the drunken zeal of *Dunces*, and the great amazement of *young Gentlemen*, who really knew not what they would have, but yet made the greatest noise, reduced the University to that temperament, that a man might study and not be thought a *Dullard*, might be sober and yet a *Conformist*, a Scholar and yet a *Church of England-man*; and from that time the University became sober, modest and studious as perhaps any *University* in *Europe*.

And if after all this I thought well of an University, he advised me not to avoid this or that House, because a vitious debauch'd Person came thence, not to be fond of an House because I my self was of it, or because the Head thereof was a fam'd man: these (said he) many times prove very fallacious measures: The only sure method to proceed by was the known



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known *Integrity* and *Prudence* of a *Tutor*, who would improve him if he were regular, if not would certainly tell me it. Such an one he told me he knew, and would write unto.

Now, full of *Instruction*, I was not long in getting on Horse-back, but an *unhappy accident* at *Oxford* had almost spoil'd all: for at ten of the Clock, in the Inn, there was such a roaring and singing that my hair stood an end, and my former *Prejudices* were so heightned, that I resolved to lose the Journey and carry back my Son again, presuming that no noise in *Oxford* could be made but *Scholars* must doe it: But the Proctour coming thither and sending two young pert Townsmen to the Prison for the Riot, relieved my fears, and quickly came to my Chamber, and perceiving my Boy designed for a Gown, told me that it was for the preservation of such *fine Youths* as he, that the Proctours made so bold with Gentlemens Lodgings. He was a man of Presence and sutable Address, and upon my request sat down; I told him, I was glad to see Authority discountenance the publick Houses, because it is an incredible scandal the University labours under from the account that Countrey Gentlemen (who  
come

come and lodge in *Oxford*) give of ranting in Inns and Taverns, as if there was no sleeping in that Town for Scholars: he civilly replied, that things might be better, but he thanked God they were no worse; that Scholars did often bear the blame of *Countrey Gentlemen* and the *Townsmens* guilt, and that absolutely to keep young men from publick Houses was impossible, but by *Parents* injunction to their Children, by *Tutors* observing the Conversation of their Pupils, and every Head of an House commanding home in time all the *junior* part at least of their Societies.

As for the *Prejudices* we suffer under in the Countrey, he said there were many reasons of that: The constant *Declamations* against us of those intruding Members who were turned out again in 60, the *Hatred* all enemies of King and Church shew against us for being presumed Parties, and the *Envy* the Gentry bear us upon a false supposition of our *Ease, Luxury,* and *Prosperity*: to which we our selves (said he) do foolishly contribute by treating Friends in our Chambers as splendidly as if we were worth *thousands*, when perhaps half a Fellowship would not pay for two such *Dinners* as are made upon a slight

flight occasion. And of all men living the *Gentry* ought not to be against us or envy our *moderate* fortunes, whose whole Employment is taken up in serving them, by *breeding* their Sons here, and *serving* their Cures hereafter. Perhaps it will be said the Sons of some of them miscarry: it is great *pity* any one should; but I am sure that Person ought to vindicate us whose Son goes off *vertuously bred*: they do not know the *care* is taken to secure their Children, and make them happy. I could willingly have heard him longer but that he was to go his *Rounds*: it was pleasant to see how my Son trembled to see the Proctour come in without knocking at his Father's Chamber door.

The next morning I carried my Neighbour's Letter to the *Tutour*, who express'd a just deference to the hand, but did not seem *fond* of the Employment. I thought to have found him mightily *pleased* with the opinion we had of his Conduct, and the credit of having a Gentleman's Son under his charge, and the Father with his Cap in hand: Instead of all this he talked at a rate as if the *Gentry* were *obliged* to Tutours more than Tutours to them. And when I asked him whether he thought me a man who did not know  
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how to be grateful? No, said he, (with somewhat of sharpness) I never met with a Gentleman backward in that in my life; and to tell you a great Truth, if I were of a *craving Temper*, I would not take half the care I do. For many Mothers (I would say Fathers too were it not for shame) are so wise, as to think that man much more accomplished for a Tutor, who can cringe solemnly, tattle in their way, lead them handsomely over a Gutter, and kiss their hands with a good grace, than a man of less *Fashion* and *Ceremony*, who, instead of flattering Parents and humouring the Son, sets carefully to work; and lets the Youth know what he comes up for. Though in the mean time I do not think *Clownishness* a virtue, but plain *Dealing* was always thought so: And some Parents have not wit enough to distinguish these two, especially when they are a little *proudish*: As for *Ingratitude* in Gentlemen, I never had any reason to complain; nay, I have often refused Presents when I thought my pains over-valued; though, I believe, (*generally*) an honest Tutor sells his hours cheaper than the Fencer or Dancing-master will. That which I value is, the great success and satisfaction I have had in the towardliness

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and proficiency of a great many young Gentlemen who at this day doe the University Credit, and the places where they live Good, by their excellent Example: But to be in earnest, the Care is infinite, and the Fear they should miscarry is very *Afflicting*: And yet after all this, if the Divine you came from told you that he thought I would undertake your Son for his sake, then I must doe it; and your Son shall know before your own face what he must *trust* to. I do not see any lines of *disobedience* in his Countenance. But I must desire you to lay your *Commands* upon him.

1. That he observe the Duties of the House for Prayers, Exercise, &c. as if he were the Son of a *Beggar*: for when a young Boy is plumed up with a *new Suit*, he is apt to fantasie himself a fine thing: Because he hath a penny Commons more than the rest, therefore he ought to be abated a penny-worth of Duty, Learning, and Wisdom. Whereas the Gentlemen in the University ought to doe *more Exercise* than others, for they stay but little time there, and ought to be accomplished in *haste*, because their Quality and the National Concern make them men *apace*. And truly if men may be heard in their own



own cause, the Gentry are too severe in condemning the Universities for not sending home their Sons furnish'd with *Ethicks, Politicks, Rhetorick, History*, the necessary Learning of a Gentleman, *Logic* and *Philosophy*, &c. and other *usefull Parts*; when they send up their Sons for two, perhaps three years onely, and suffer them to trifle away half that time too: It is an ungratefull task to the Tutor always to be *chiding*, the Father must command *greater strictness*; otherwise, when the young man who hath been long in *Durance* and here finds his shackles knocked off, and the Gate wide open, he will *ramble* everlastingly, and make it work more than enough for us to keep him sober: whereas if they will take care that he be furnish'd *early* at School with *Latin*, come up hither young and *pliable*, stay here and study hard for *five years*, then if he prove not able to doe the King and his Countrey service, I am content it should be *our Fault*.

2. That he writes no Letter to come home for the first *whole year*. It is a common and a very great inconvenience, that soon after a young Gentleman is settled, and but *beginning to begin* to study; we have a tedious ill-spell'd Letter from a

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dear Sister, who languishes and longs to see him: and this, together with rising to Prayers at six a Clock in the morning, softens the lazy Youth into a fond desire of seeing them too: Then all on the sudden up *Posts* the Livery-man and the led Horse, enquires for the College where the young *Squire* lives, finds my young Master with his Boots and Spurs on *before-hand*, quarrelling the poor man for not coming sooner. The next news of him is at home, within a day or two he is invited to a *hunting match*, and the sickly Youth, who was scarce able to rise to Prayers, can now rise at four of the Clock to a Fox-chase, then must he be treated at an Ale-house with a Rump of Beef seven miles from home, hear an Uncle, Cousin, or Neighbour rant and swear; and after such a sort of *Education* for six or eight weeks, full of tears and melancholy, the sad Soul returns to *Oxford*: his Brains have been so *shogged*, he cannot think in a fortnight: and after all this, if the young man prove debauch'd, the University must be blam'd. And, Sir, if you can bear a Truth I hope you are not concerned in, the first question the Tutor should ask is, In what kind of *Family* and in *what manner* the Child hath

hath been bred up before he comes to us. For where Parents give good Examples themselves, and keep good Order in a Family, the *University Business* is half done to our hands: But if he shall come out of a *Sty* or a *Den*, see his own Father carried up three times a week to bed; hear nothing but Oaths and ill language from Servants, &c. it must needs vitiate the Virgin Soul, he comes up diseased, and it will require very skilfull application to correct an error in that first concoction.

3. That he frequent not *publick Places*, such as are *Bowling - Green*, *Racket-Court*, &c. for beside the danger of firing his blood by a *Fever*, heightning *Passion* into *cursing* and *swearing*, he must unavoidably grow acquainted with *promiscuous* Company, whether they are or are not *Vertuous*. Nay, were his new acquaintance all very good, and of the strictest House, the certainty of making him idle by receiving and paying *Treats* and *Visits* is dangerous. I have seen two sorts of *Liquour*, each of them cold when they were *singly touched*, but when they were put together they flamed with such a degree of heat as melted the *Glass* they were in. Beside this, all young Gentle-

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men are not sent to the University with the *same design* with your Son; I know a very honest lusty Countrey Gentleman of four or five thousand a year, who sent his Heir to the University merely for *Credit's* sake; and wisely bid him spend what he would (which the Youth dutifully obeyed) required no more of his *Tutour* than to keep him from knocking his head against a Sign-post, and dirting his filken Stockens at nine of the Clock; do you think such a man fit company for your Son whom you design to be Lord Keeper?

4 Be sure that he discharge all *Dues Quarterly*, and not learn to run into debt, this will make him gain credit and buy cheaper. Whatever he saves of your Allowance, let it be his own gain, perhaps that may teach him *thrift*, and if I were fit to be your Tutour, I would advise you to *double* it: for Prodigality is a little more catching than Niggardliness with *young Gentlemen*. I know a Person in the World who lived with as much credit in Oxford as any man, always Genteel in Habit, and where Entertainments were becoming always generous; and yet carried away with him a good sum of money saved out of his Father's *allowance*, and if he

he would give me leave, I would propose him as an *Example* to the Gentry of the University.

5. Whatever Letters of *Complaints* he writes home I desire you to send me a Copy: for ill-natur'd, untoward Boys, when they find Discipline fit hard upon them, they then will learn to lie, complain and rail against the University, the College, and the Tutor, and with a *whining* Letter, make the Mother, *make the Father* believe all that he can invent, when all this while his main design is to leave the University, and go home again to *spanning farthings*.

6. I understand by one of your Daughters that you have brought him up a *fine* *Paid* to keep here for his health's sake, now I will tell you the use of an Horse in *Oxford*, and then doe as you think fit. The Horse must be kept at an *Alle-house* or an *inn*, and he must have leave to go once every day to see him eat Oats, because the Master's eye makes him fat: and it will not be *Genteel* to go often to an House and spend nothing; and then there may be some danger of the Horse growing *resty* if he be not used often, so that you must give him leave to go to *Abingdon* once every week to look out of the Ta-



vern Window, and see the Maids sell Turnips: and in one month or two come home with a surfeit of poisoned Wine, and save any farther charges by dying: and then you will be troubled to send for your Horse again: This was the unhappiness of a delicate Youth, whose great misfortune it was to be worth two thousand a year before he was one and twenty.

7. That he go constantly to the University Church on Sundays.

Before I came to be a Tutor, curiosity and a natural share of thoughtfulness, made me observe the Temper of the Youth of the University, such as either necessity or accident had brought me acquainted with: and I found one too common an humour, which from the beginning I did lament, foreseeing even then a very unhappy consequence of it. You should see young Gentlemen mighty forward to hasten to St. Mary's, and happy the man who could get the foremost place in the Gallery: but if the Preacher who came up did not please either with his Looks, his Voice, his Text, or any Whimsy else, immediately a great bustling to get out; neighbours of each side disturbed to make the Gentleman room: (who sometimes

times drags half a score along with him) especially if he had a *pointed Band*, and a *silk Suit*, and kept a brace of *Geldings*. Well, when they had fought their way out into the Streets, they were for *venturing* their fortunes at another Church; but there the Minister was *practical*, *dull*, and *plain*, and being uncertain what to doe, it being not yet *Dinner* time, they resolved to stumble in at one holy threshold more, and what with staring about on the Auditours, talking aloud of, and censuring the Preacher, they made a hard shift to hold out till the little greezy Bells began to Ring to Veal and Mutton, and then by the *modest admonition* of going out put the Minister in mind of being civil to the rest of the Hearers. Coming home they talk as big as Bull Beef of each man they heard: though, if you ask the very Text, (alas!) he talked so low they could never remember that.

At last I perceived that this *Ambulatory* *Rolling* carelessness of humour, begat an indifference of going to any Church at all: and so prepared the young Gentry when they should come to be let loose into the wide world to be no great opposers of *Atheism*.

This was unhappily contributed to, by the Disputes concerning the *Sabbath*: some contending for a very *Jewish* observance; Others disproving its *Morality*, both brought contempt upon that day, and accidentally upon *Religion* it self: as did also the Levelling Churches with Stables, and making the *Inward Worship* of God oppose the *Outward*.

For whosoever knows the great *Lucriferous* and *Stupidity* of the Vulgar, need not be told that Religion is kept up by the distinction of the *Lord's-day* from other days; and if the *Plough* were not stopp'd, a long *Sermon* preach'd, and a *Psalm* or two sung, Religion name and thing would quickly be destroyed, and the Countrey Peoples *Hair* and *Nails* would grow as long as *Nebuchadnezzar's* in the fourth of *Daniel*.

Therefore, I pray Sir, command your Son to be true and just to the *Out-side* of Christian Religion, and leave the rest to God's *Grace* upon the Use of means. Let him not hearken to the *Whispers* of such as would insinuate distastfull Notions of *Ceremonies* and Church-government; for if he once grows *disaffected* in his mind from the Publick Worship, then he will pick-keer out under every hedge, for a *new Religion*, and finding himself disappointed,

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'tis odds but in a twelve months time he may magnifie the *Leviathan*, and when he comes to that, if he doth not cut your Throat (provided he can doe it safely) for fear you disinherit him, truly you are beholden to him.

8. Oblige him to frequency of *writing Home*: For coming to the University is not like going beyond Sea, where some persons learn to forget their *Relations*, and would absolutely slight them, were it not for a Bill now and then. Letters to and fro are some kind of *guard* upon a youth: and it will not onely be an *honest* means of filling up some idle time, but will make him better able to write an handsome Letter which is no disparagement to a Gentleman, or to write a good Hand, which few doe. Beside all this, he who begins to contemn his *Relations*, to whom he owes all, will quickly reckon *Favouring* a Relation not so considerable and regardable as at first he was told. And in a little time *Commands* will look like Tyranny and Usurpation; and then Tutor, Father and Vice-chancellor, will never be able to balance the World, the Flesh and the Devil.

9. I would not have him grow in love with Cards and Dice. For though at first nothing

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all these things, and doth it merely out of a Fear of your Displeasure, and not out of a Sense of his Duty to God as well as Man, (and secretly wish that he had liberty to be as wild as the worst) it will be but a sort of *Eye-service*, a forced Complement of Good-nature, and never come to much.

But if he be a *serious* and *thinking* Youth, virtuously and religiously inclin'd; if able to consider the Performance of his Duty, as a share of that service God requires for the Talents he affords: then he will study without *bidding*, and say his Prayers when no man sees: and a Voice then from behind shall bid him go on and prosper, and all the Care and Kindness in the World, I will promise you, shall be thought too little.

It was very Comical to hear the differing apprehensions I and the rest of the Company had of this Discourse. For the Women long'd to go and see the College and the Tutor. And when he was gone out of the Room, I asked how they liked the Person and his Converse: My Boy clung about his Mother, and cry'd to go Home again; And she had no more ~~will~~ than to be of the same mind, she thought him too weakly to undergo so much ~~Hard~~ ship.



ship as she foresaw was to be expected. My Daughters (who instead of Catechism and Lady's-Calling) had been used to read nothing but Speeches in Romances, and hearing nothing of Love and Honour in all the Talk, fell into downright scolding at him: call'd him the *Worst* Scholar: and if this were your Oxford Breeding, they had rather he should go to *Constantinople* to learn Manners: But I, who was older and understood the Language, call'd them all great Fools, and told them that there was so much plain, *practicable Truth* in what he had said, that if every Gentleman would *effectually* take such a Course, it were impossible for one Child in Fourty to miscarry.

But perceiving by some part of the Discourse that our Children should be *earlier furnished* in the School with Learning, and so come *sooner* to the University than generally they do, before they are too much their own men, and in sight of *one and twenty*: In behalf of a *young Nobleman* of my near Acquaintance whose eldest Son was about *four or five years of Age*, and who was very solicitous to manage his Education to all the best Advantages, I desired him to furnish me with some Instructions, serviceable to that Noble Family

nothing may seem more harmless than to cheat a tedious hour or two with the loss of a Trifle; Yet by degrees much Play will beget *Skill*, and *Skill* will beget *Emulation*, this will heighten *Wagers*: Frequent losses will encrease *Passion*: Frequent conquests will make him think himself a greater *Gamester* than really he is: and whenever he goes so far that *Passion* blinds what *Skill* he hath, or *Opinion* makes him bold of what *Skill* he hath not, then it will be time to send him up to *London*, to help maintain the Wits of the Town.

Amongst whom, if he loseth, it's likely he is *cheated*; if he winns, then he must fight the man he hath *undone*: and so stake 2000 pounds a year against a Silver Sword: If you do permit him to be fond of *gaming* while he is young, and this doth not befall him, indeed it is none of his *Father's* fault.

10. As for your Allowance and moderate pocket money, it must be at your *discretion*: onely I desire that it may go through my hands, at least the whole first year, till I can take some measures of his *discretion*. I would not have him allowed too little, that he may live like a *Gentleman*: and I would not have him allowed too much, lest he should set up for *nothing* else.

11. That

11. That he grow intimate with none but such as I shall recommend to his Acquaintance: Necessity, Good-manners and the customary Respect which is usually paid Strangers, will command a friendly *correspondency* with the members of the same College. But it is of very ill consequence, for an unexperienced, easie-natur'd Person of Quality (*the better natur'd, the sooner undone*) to make himself fond of every man who shall court a constant Familiarity, with all the Civility of Address and Friendship.

For if he be a man of *great Acquaintance*, so must you. If he be *idle*, then by frequent Avocations he will by degrees lessen the *Practice* of your Duty, and jett you out of the *Opinion* of it. Then *Prayers* shall be call'd loss of time; *Disputations*, School-play; and *Lectures*, Pedantry: Then the Tutor's presence will become frightfull, Advice useless, and Commands provoking.

12. You must leave him wholly to me, for the *method* of his Study and the Books he must read, and expect an Account from me of his Abilities and Inclinations in order to a Course of life hereafter.

13. And now, last of all, I must ingenuously tell you *hark*, that if he observes  
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all these things, and doth it merely out of a Fear of your Displeasure, and not out of a Sense of his Duty to God as well as Man, (and secretly with that he had liberty to be as wild as the worst) it will be but a sort of *Eye-service*, a forced Complement of Good-nature, and never come to much.

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mily, in the prevention of such Inconveniencies as I my self had run into.

He told me that he thought a Child might by *twelve years* of Age be furnished with good skill in Latin and some in Greek, and then after *five years* stay in the University be very well prepared for all the Uses of *Travel*, according to the Methods and Directions in the Book of *Education* and *Gentleman's-Calling*, which can never be read over too often by the Gentry. The most easie and common Advice which every man's Experience shews to be most absolutely necessary, he bad me practise as follows.

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**General**

*General Directions for the better  
Education of a Child of Great  
Quality.*

1. **C**ure the Mother of the *Disease* called Fondness if you can, otherwise the Child will be bred so tenderly as to be good for little. Every Door must be shut, and a Fire made in the midst of *Jury*, while my Young Master's dressing, so that most times he doth not prove Hardy enough to be Healthy or Wise. Take a curl-headed Boy from the Side of a Beggar (the phlegmatick offspring of Buttermilk and sour Cheese) who runs Bare-headed all day, and snoars all night upon a bagg of Straw. Take and spirit this rational Clod into *Turky*; after a Course of Hardship; in thirty years time you may meet him at the Head of an hundred thousand men, matching *Politicks* with all the witty and civilized World. Certainly *Gentlemen* are born with better *Bloud*, *Spirits*, and *Parts* than such a fellow; but you see what *Discipline* may doe with one, while through too much *Warmth*, *Laziness*, and softness of Skin, the very Soul of the other transpires and wastes.

2. Though

2. Though I would not have a Child dealt withall *peevishly*, yet it is of very ill consequence always to gratifie him in the unsatiable Wantonness of his little wishes, this naturally tends to the making him *humourfome* and *self-will'd*, and all that the Parents Get by that Quality when he grows up, they may put in their Eyes and see never the worse. Place a Child at the Table where there are many *Dishes*, He shall reach out his Finger, point and call for every one, and when he hath dined (too long by an Hour) ask him if he will have this or that, he never fails to say, Yes: which is not worse for his *Health*, than in other instances for *Naturals*.

3. Good Care ought to be taken what *Diet* the Child eats: For though I cannot mechanically shew how heavy *Pudden* and Salt, (or which is worse) fresh *Beef*, gets in and mixeth with the Soul of a Child, yet I dare say, the Learned in Physick are able to prove that the more of such things you load a tender Stomach with, the longer you keep him from being a *Poet* or a *Privy-counsellor*. I should go nigh to rail at *Sweet-meats* too, but that we

we have a *survy* Proverb, of being ill-natur'd if you love them not; whether *wine* (which is now frequently given) be proper for Children or no, you were best consult the *Doctor*. Light Meats, Chicken, Mutton, &c. once every day, and spoon-meat, are thought most agreeable.

4. The *Exercise* which a Child should use is to be considered: I would not have his *Motions violent*, but I would have him much *fir*, and often fan his Bloud with dry and fresh *Air*: I have heard of a certain *Great Lady*, Mother of many Children, which deserved as much Fondness as any breathing; but instead of riding in a Coach and Glasses up, made them walk out a mile or two in a clear, sharp, frosty Morning, put their Noses and Lipps into such a *Red and Blew*, that would have made half the Mothers in *England* think their Children *Dying*, but after this, I never heard any man complain, that it spoil'd either their *Health*, *Beauty* or their *wit*. Of all Hardships, use the Child to rise early.

5. Care must be taken what Company the Child keeps.

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I am not yet come to the inconvenient mixture of Persons of Quality in the *same School* with Tinkers and Coblers Children, which perhaps may teach them base, dirty Qualities (they were never born to) of Lying, Filching, Railing, Swearing, &c. because I have not yet resolved my self how it can be avoided: I am onely now speaking of a Child very young, and bred at Home.

I have observed that the eldest Sons of Great Families lose three years at least. For the common Cry is, that it is time enough to learn their Books when they come to be *seven or eight* years old. This might in a degree be true enough, if in the mean time they did onely converse with wise and serious Companions.

But when they are able to speak and *prate* they begin to be exceedingly *acceptable*, and the Dalliance of every Creature towards them is obliging; but all this while, this doth but invite the useless Tattle of a foolish *Nurse*, a *Foot-boy*, or a *Kitchin-wench*: and, if his Mastership is to be pleased with seeing the Stable and Sitting on an *Horse*, then he is farther accomplish'd with the ill-bred Language and Actions of the *out-lying* Servants also. This I mention, because I know some Families



Families in which Children sometimes better beloved than the rest, or else because there were *no more*, having had a constant familiarity and scarce any other converse than with Parents, and *those*, Persons of Experience and Thought. The Children have grown apace into *sense* and *reflexion*, and made wiser Persons asham'd of their own *Age*.

But for a Child to be most in the Company of Servants, and so many *Livery-men* always waiting and bare-headed, if it doth not make the *Living-creature* proud, idle, and think himself fit to be a Lord (before the King and Nation doth) truly he is less of kin to *Adam* than I am.

6. Since this Youth of Quality must be bred up at *Home*, my next advice is, to get a grave, experienc'd well-temper'd Person to manage him, by descending to all the little *Observances* his Age and your Expectation requires: But then I must have leave to tell you, that your *Allowance* must be very considerable, and his Estate will bear it: For no Wise man will play the Fool to *no purpose*: And if you or his Relations shall fanfie that common Maxime, *The cheaper the better*, you will meet with men who will serve and please you and the

the Child at *present*, who perhaps hereafter will reckon himself no great Gainer, when he finds the want of that Accomplishment which his *Quality* and *Parts* deserve, and that his Brains were sold for twenty pounds a year.

It is not well enough considered what it costs to be Learned and Wise, both *pains* and *money*: and whereas Scholars are look'd on as *poor* and *mean*, born to serve them who have the luck to be rich; yet I do not find truly that great Ones part easily with what they come hard by.

I could tell you of a Person in the World worth some thousands yearly, a Man very considerable for Management, Temper, Justice and all the Qualities of a Gentleman, if he had not placed too much wisdom in *thrift*. He had an eldest Son *incomparable* for Parts and Good-nature, and more willing to be made a Wise man than Boys generally are. But the good Father, to save the *charges* of a great School and boarding abroad any where, was resolved to diet him in Wisdom at his own *Table*, with the cheap assistance of a poor Chaplain, who was to bestow upon him all the week as much Wiseness as ten pounds a year and a good stout Dinner is generally worth.

When

When the young Heir came towards *Age*, I happened to be acquainted with him, and in some degrees of familiarity, and finding very *fine Parts* in the Rubbish of a great deal of *Clownery*, I once dealt with him very *forwardly*, and ask'd him plainly, how it came to pass that he was not a *wiser* man; *Ask my Father*, said he. And when I replied, that his Father was reputed a discreet Man; Yes, said the young Gentleman, and I thought him so when I was a young *Child*. But now I am grown up, and the World expects some agreeable Conversation with my *Age, Quality, and Acquaintance*, I appear so little in Company, and am sensible how little I appear, that I wish I had either onely been born with Wit enough not to be *begg'd*, or that my Father had valued the Improvement of my Parts at a *Thousand* a year of my Estate.

7. The Tutor, I propose, will doe well by all the Artifice of kindness and easiness to gain *Affection* from the Child. For otherwise, by Force and bare Duty, he will learn as little from that Tutor, as a *Farmer* doth from the Minister by the Sermon which is *next* preach'd after he hath paid his *Tithes*.

8. Keep

8. Keep the Child as much as possible out of all Company wherein there may be danger of seeing Actions of *Rudeness, Indecency, Debauchery, Infirmary*, especially if they are committed by near *Relations*, Father, Mother, Brother, &c. Incredible is the *observation* of Children: and, I dare say, they *think* long before we perceive it; and the Reverence and Regard they have for Relations recommends all Actions to their Imitation with a strong *Prejudice*.

9. By all Arts of kindness prevent *Frowardness* in him, which will turn to a very ill Quality, when he grows up.

10. When he is able to speak plain, and capable to be taught, let him learn *Sense and words* together: I mean, teach him such Words as signify some material Sense, either of *Breeding, Morality* or *Religion*, and not idle, useless words, which signify nothing but the Folly of such as teach them.

11. When you begin with him, do not clog him with too much, to make him loath or dread it, but let him come to the Book as to his *Recreation*, or to gain *Credit*.

12. Ac-

12. Accustome him to kind and friendly words even towards *Servants* and *Inferiours*. This will not onely be obliging, but will habituate the Child to Respect and Decency to men of *higher Degree*, to Parents and Tutour himself; and be sure to instruct him of the *regard* to be had according to mens *different Qualities*.

13. The method how to teach him *Latin* with most advantage and expedition I must wholly leave to the Tutour: For whether it be sooner learn'd by the *Rules* of Grammar as is done in Schools, or barely by Construing *Authours*, and talking Latin with the Child always, by which sometimes Gentlemen are taught, I am not able to answer mine own Arguments for each: Use him much to Translation which I think much better than Composition.

14. Be sure to keep him constant to *Devotion*, and let not his own private prayers be *tedious* and *wearisome*.

15. Make him able to reade *Greek*, and turn the *Lexicon* upon occasion, as far as the *Greek Testament*.

E

16. A



16. A short Series of the History and Chronology of the *Old Testament*, by Question and Answer, with a general Knowledge of the Globes, would be usefull, and make him proud of Learning.

17. The excellent Qualities of *Cyrus* in *Xenophon* translated and commended, would be an admirable Pattern for Emulation.

18. Of all the good Qualities, from the very beginning, accustome the Child to *speake the Truth*, and when he is faulty, do not affright him into lying, and silly excuses (which Servants commonly teach them) but by mildness and *security* from chiding, at the first beget in him the *courage* of confessing his faults: Great Actions of Honour and Justice depend upon *Veracity*.

19. Whatever the Child doth well, either voluntary or out of observance of former Commands, be sure let him have *Commendation* enough, this is a principal Reward and tickles the proud Flesh.

20. Let no Person chide the Child who is in a great fit of Anger, lest the  
violence

violence of it make him moped, or the indecency of it make him grow careless.

21. I would not have Parents or Tutor be *always* chiding for little things: those will better be mended by persuasion; and to chide for *every* fault alike, will in time make the Youth think great faults no worse than little ones, and reproving a mere thing of course, 'tis the *common*, but a very inartificial way.

22. Whenever you find the Child in an *Extravagant* fit of Froppishness and Anger (how little soever be the provocation) do not express anger to him at *that* time, but immediately sweeten him, take his part, and get him out of the fit as soon as you can, lest it grow *violent* and *lasting*, and at a cooler season argue the *indecorum* with him, when *Reason* will come in to his assistance.

23. Never disgrace the Child or upbraid him with his Follies before *Strangers*: this may cut him too much, and never be forgotten; and it will be *very obliging* when he is afterwards made *understand* how kind you were in moderating your reproofs for his *Honour's* sake.

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24. Let not the Child be frightened with horrid stories of Bug-bears or idle tricks in the dark: the ill consequences may be very great.

25. Never let him be accustom'd to laugh at mens-natural *Infirmities*, but give him occasion from thence of thanking God who hath made the *Difference*.

26. Magnifie and help him to admire the glorious parts of the Creation and variety therein: this will beget early Notions of Reverence and Honour for the *Maker*.

27. Keep him from hearing any *Paradoxes* disputed in the place where he is, either of Religion, Morality, Government, &c. and whenever it happens, let him see his Parents and Tutor undertake always the *better* side.

28. A good short Collection of *Proverbs* out of *Solomon*, and the Proverbs of each single Nation wherein their Wisdom consists ) such as respect God, Religion, good Manners, civil Breeding and Duty in all Relations, well digested into a Method,

rhod, and under *proper Heads*, to be judiciously explained to the Child at leisure times, would be of incomparable use: Because that short, grave, sententious way of Instruction sticks better in the *Memory* and helps his *Thinking*. Such a Collection I intend to publish.

29. Let him read nothing by himself which is not very *easy* for him to comprehend, lest it discourage his reading: and let all your Discourses with him be very *plain*, and of such things as he is capable to be instructed in: this will help and *draw out* his Parts, whereas Difficulties will *banck* and *stifle* them.

20. If you find him begin to grow *pert* and *forward*, never check him, but you must be sure to *modifie* his Wit, you must set limits, and say hitherto and no farther, bound it with Good-nature and Decency: For there is one Quality mightily *taking*, and especially if it discover it self early in a Child, which is to *jeer* and *Reflect* upon men and their Actions: Beside the Impudence, Ill-nature and Abusive Language which this is generally attended with (and so is the most unbecoming Breeding for a *Gentleman*) it many

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times proves very dangerous in *promiscuous* Company. It is not long since, for a Sentence no greater than the Wise mens of *Greece* (and not half so witty) a fine Gentleman had his Brains beaten out : *Cicero* was a great *Jester*, but the cry went on *Antony's* side for Wit, when he had gotten his Head off.

31. If you find him impetuously in love with any thing you do not like, you must not *bluntly* and suddenly check him, this may make him love it the more, and look on you as the *Enemy* of his Happiness; but by degrees lessen the value of the Object, persuade him of its *disagreeableness*, and divert him with something more innocent, and of a differing nature,  
*Alterius vires subtrahit alter amor.*

32. If you find him apt to take offence at any single man's Person, disgust and hate him; by all means strive to qualify this, never rest till you have made him a Friend, let him know the *Duty*, and have the *Honour* of Forgiving. This may be of use if he live to be a great Man.

33. If you find him inclining to Thoughtfulness, Sadness, and Sighing,  
correct



correct it with all imaginable pains by pleasant Converse, light Diets, cheerfull Recreations, delightfull Readings, lest he get an Habit, and at last grow *Melancholy*, that is, useles and unserviceable, to God and Man.

34. Take all occasions in *his Company* to magnifie *Virtue* and debase *Vice*: Furnish him with Examples of both out of Scripture, of God's Judgments and Deliverances: but till he is ripe enough to be instructed, you may forbear letting him read those Chapters wherein the *failings* of good Men are recorded. The Plainness and Spirit of Devotion contained in the *Psalms*, speak them fittest to be read by a Child.

These (said the Tutor to me) are the *uppermost* Rules that occur as *absolutely* necessary to be observed in the first breeding of the Person of Quality you talk of: Though, if your Dinner did not wait you, perhaps I might think of more, but first try these *effectually*, and consult the Book of Education for other necessary Instructions.

I heartily thanked him, and finding it late, I invited him to Dinner with me at

the *Inn*, but he refused, saying that such Houses were not built for *Gown-men*, and made me leave my Son to dine with him, having (said he) observed the great *Improv-idence* of the Gentry, who when they come to enter a Son, (which is commonly at the *Act*, that solemn season of *Luxury*) bring *Wife* and *Daughters* to shew them the University; there's mighty Feasting and Drinking for a week, every Tavern examin'd, and all this with the company of a Child, forsooth, sent up hither for *Sobriety* and *Industry*.

After this he invited us the next day to a Commons, and according to his *Humour* before, I expected to have been *starved* in his Chamber, and the Girls drank Chocolette at no rate in the morning for fear of the *worst*.

It was very pleasant to see, when we came, the *constrain'd* Artifice of an unaccustomed Complement, Silver Tankards heaped upon one another, Napkins some twenty years younger than the rest, Glasses fit for a *Dutchman* at an *East-India Return*.

And at last came an Entertainment big enough for ten *Members* of the House: I was asham'd, but would not disoblige him, considering with my self that I should

should put this man to such a charge of fourty shillings at least, to entertain me, when for all his honest care and pains he is to have but fourty or fifty shillings a Quarter, so that for one whole Quarter he must doe the drudgery to my Son for nothing.

After Dinner I went to the publick *Bowling Green*, it being the onely Récreation I can affect. Coming in, I saw half a score of the finest Youths the Sun, I think, ever shined upon: they walked to and fro, with their hands in their Pockets, to see a match played by some Scholars and some Gentlemen fam'd for their skill. I gaped also and stared as a man in his way would doe: But a Countrey ruff Gentleman, being like to *lose*, did swear at such a rate that my heart did grieve that those fine young men should *hear* it, and know there was such a thing as *swearing* in the Kingdom. Coming to my Lodging I charged my Son never to go to such publick places unless he resolved to quarrel me.

Having *settled* my Son and left my commands with him, we all made haste home again, in earnest much better satisfied with the *Government* of the University than I was before, for all this

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while I had as critically observed all mis-carriages as a *prejudiced* man may be imagined to doe.

And (to say more) when we were summon'd thither a while before to sit in *Parliament*, I was resolved narrowly to scan the carriage of the University towards the *Members*, to understand the temper and opinion, as far as the free converse in *Coffee Houses* (where every man's *Religion* and *Politicks* are quickly seen) could discover.

The plainness and freedom *young Masters* us'd was odd at the first, but afterwards very pleasant, when it appeared to be a kind of *Trade*, not *Policy*: For being used all the week long to dispute *Paradoxes*, the *Disputacity* reached afterwards to matter of *Religion* and *State*. But in fine, I perceived there was nothing of design or malice in all this, but a *road* of *Converse*, arising partly out of hatred to *Fanaticks* and want of *experience* and conversation in the *World*, which teaches men to be more cautious in promiscuous discourse.

As for their *Civility* to the *Members* we must own it, we had their Lodgings (as good as they were) for nothing, with civility and respect wherever they met

met us *agreeable*: when at the same time the *Townsmen* put Dutch rates upon their Houses, that under five or six pound, a week a Whig could not have *room enough* to speak Treason in. I could not perceive but they both talked and preached against Popery as much as any men, though in the business of Succession they still favoured the Duke. I walk'd the Streets as late as most people, and never in ten days time ever saw any Scholar rude or disordered: so that as I grow old, and more engaged to speak the *truth*, I do repent of the *ill opinion* I have had of that place, and hope to be farther obliged by a very good *account* of my Son.

And upon the whole matter let me offer you one *Caution*, when you cry out *Idle, Ignorant, Ill-bred, Debauch'd, Popish University*, I am sure you speak at a venture, and do but echo the *ill-natured* Fame of things: And ill Language doth not become the mouth of a *Gentleman* though the matter be true. But I am now convinced that we *wrong* them; As for their Idleness, the *Graver* sort kept close: 'tis true Curiosity brought out the *young* Gentleman to see new Faces and shew their new Ribbons: for *Ignorance* we are  
not



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not Judges, and the Nation generally frees them from that: for their *Ill-breeding*, Simplicity and Plainness is their Guise, and they look upon all things else as Art. *Debauchery* may happen among some of so many, but all my Acquaintance abominate it as much as you and I do. And as for *Popery*, the most serious men I knew there study to make themselves able to resist the *Temptation*: so that for us of the Gentry to rail at them for *Popishly* affected, and men forlorn as to Protestant Religion, is very *Unjust* and *Uncharitable*.

In the *next place* you beg my direction in the *management of the Canvass*: I confess I shall never be able to admire enough the most excellent Constitution of our Government by way of a Parliament, wherein the meanest Subject hath his just regard, and fourty shillings a year makes a man wise enough to chuse his *Representative*: nay now of late very *Cottagers* and *Quakers* come in for a share in electing that Assembly, which for ought I know turns and winds the great Affairs of all *Europe*: Though I must confess I am sorry, that in *Elections* so little regard is had to the Wisdom and Vertue of the Candidate,

didate, and that so much use is made of the *Ignorance* and *Vices* of the people.

It will not be safe to depend upon the vulgar of your own Party, because many of them will appear to have no Votes either on Account of *Swearing* or *Estates*; and yet their Zeal for the Cause will hurry them on to poll.

If you manage your self wisely, I know no man can make a better *Figure* in the Field than you, and thus, presuming of you in the *House*, I will next give you my thoughts concerning your *Behaviour* there. For the least misbehaviour at *first coming* is not easily forgotten in that Place.

1. I will recommend and furnish you with Books and Copies which give an Account of the Original, Privileges and Proceedings in that House, which will make you capable to act very serviceably, whether you prove a great Speaker or no.

2. It will be the best use you can make of the first three or four months (if you sit so long) to be particularly acquainted with the Face, Parts, and Designs of every Member, more particularly, I advise you,

1. Not

1. Not to be a Speaker *too soon*, which is incident to Youth.

2. Whenever you speak, your native *Modesty* will be very becoming, and *Brevity* withall; for we old Stagers did always look on it as our Privilege to be *tedious*.

3. Meddle with no man's *Person*, because you do not know how many you disoblige; do not begin early to reply to other mens Speeches, because such a man ought to be very considering and ready.

4. Never speech it when you are provoked to be *angry*, because it will be hard then to act with *decency*, required in so great a Meeting.

5. Study not to be much *concern'd* when you are replied upon with Sharpness or Jeer.

6. Beware of discovering any Affectation of being *Witty*: for that shews you pleased with what you say, which is unacceptable, and beneath the Opinion you ought

ought to have of an Assembly so august. Do not affect great Words, for a design to be thought Learned shews the *want*, and the more knowing any man is, the *plainer* he is able to express his mind. But, on the other side, you must not descend to low and mean expressions, that will favour of an *ungenteel* Breeding. Beware of all unusual motions and gestures of Head, Eyes, Hand, Body, or the like.

7. When any matter of great moment is debated, be not *forward* to speak, because at your Age it is impossible you should comprehend the matter, design and managery of the Case. But be sure at such a time to *frequent* the House, and be a diligent Auditor: for then you will hear the *Reason, Law, Policy, and Eloquence* of our English Gentry: Masculine Eloquence, which flows upon all Occasions, not constrain'd to the fulsome *Anaphora's* and *Paronomasia's* of the modern Rhetoricians, those Whistles and Rattles of *School-boys*: Not but those Figures when they were first, or now when they are wisely used, are good Ornaments: But it is a vast mistake to transplant those Flowers out of the fertile soil of *Cicero* and the Ancients, and think they will thrive and  
grow

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grow in every *Clod-pate*; to think that those Schemes in a small Epitome, robb'd of the Advantages to be understood, such as are the *Occasion, Person, Time, Connexion*, &c. should by being barely learn'd by heart, make every Puny able to imitate the *greatest Master* of Speech in all mankind.

When you come once to be taken notice of; then remember to fortifie your self against sollicitations to serve a *Party*, and that from men who will think they doe you *Honour* to vouchsafe you a gratuitous *Nod*: the Inconveniences will be many.

1. Under *Pretence* of preparing Business you must be a Slave to Clubbs of twelve, one, two, three of the Clock, whereby the Health will be impaired and ill Habits gotten.

2. You must then resolve to *captive* your Judgment to the Opinion of the leading-men of your Party. And then your own Reason will be quite lost, you will never attempt to examine the true merit of the Cause, and so many times be betray'd to the eager pursuit of what  
you



you would abhor did you well consider, what perhaps your mighty Leader pursues out of *Passion, Interest* or Humane *Inadvertency*, when all the while you think he doth act with due *Deliberation, Integrity of Intention*, and merely on *Publick good*: such an Authoritative Leading-man is the Bane of any *Society* whatever.

3. You must expect to bear a share in Answering for all the *Imprudences* of your Party. No number was ever so happily combined, but that some Persons in it would be apt to act some *extravagant* Part, out of Zeal to serve a Cause, which will make a Thinking-man blush to favour.

4. You certainly create Enemies to your self, all of the *opposite* Persuasions, though you never had thoughts or design so to doe. All Acts of unkindness received, or Acts of Revenge threatned, shall respect you as one of the Party, who are purely simple and passive, as much as if you had been the *first* Mover or Executor of the whole; this makes *Neighbours, Friends, Kindred*, at Daggers drawing when e'er they meet: Believe it, the necessary *Mixture* and Complication of your Affairs

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fairs in the World, and the *various Relations* you must bear, will afford you Contrasting more than enough. Create as few Troubles to your self as you can.



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